

hot springs of the state are related to these fault lines.

Waters rising from a fault in igneous rock, are apt to be virgin or juvenile waters which see the light of day for the first time in untold ages. Such springs are unaffected by rainfall, are very apt to be radio-active and are apt to contain rare and beneficial elements not found in surface waters. Springs which start from a fault and then pass through sedimentary rock are more apt to be loaded with minerals from these sediments. Juvenile waters may, as in the case of the Carlsbad springs, issue from the "fundamental magma" and bring new additions to the earth's surface. There is reason for the belief that many Californian hot springs are magmatic in origin and therefore of peculiar possibilities in content and therapeutic employment.

Commercial analyses are too apt to leave unmentioned or to list merely as "traces" the rarer elements which may in reality be the source of a spring's potency. The newer knowledge of radium and other emanations and radiations likewise shows the importance of an intelligent, and systematic study of the natural springs. The medical profession should lead in securing such adequate study for the springs of California and in the development of the wonderful therapeutic possibilities therein lying.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LEAGUE.

The third annual meeting of the League for the Conservation of Public Health was held in the Blue Room of the St. Francis Hotel, December 29th. A complete review of the comprehensive work of the League was given in a report by Dr. Charles D. McGettigan, Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Delegates from various sections of the State commented enthusiastically upon the effective work of the League and the Chairman's report was unanimously adopted.

From this report of the Executive Committee, we find that representatives of the League have been very busy during the past year, as they have traveled more than 50,000 miles through California in advancing the purposes to which the League is dedicated. That there was no lost motion, and that the good seed that was sown on the ground covered was growing sturdily was evidenced by abundant facts.

Following a review of the many pernicious measures that were successfully opposed by the League, and others that were successfully supported during the Forty-third session of the Legislature, the Chairman's report set forth the substantial progress made in the notable constructive work of the League.

"Among the performances of the League," the Executive report recites, "to which we point with particular pride is the service which we have inaugurated for the betterment of the hospitals of the State. The League's program comprehends a gradual improvement and development of the progressive hospitals of the State to accomplish

the maximum good for all. All hospitals of the State will be surveyed as rapidly as possible and the information filled and filed under the 58 headings of our Official Hospital Survey Report. A duplicate of these reports, covering each hospital, is sent to the American Medical Association.

"The comments that we have received from a number of hospitals already surveyed are uniformly encouraging and assuring. All acknowledge that they have advantageously followed the suggestions given at the time of survey and are eagerly seeking further guidance. It is through this practical follow-up service and continuous touch that the League will strengthen the imperfect hospitals and perfect the better ones."

The League is planning to hold this spring a State-wide Conference of the Hospitals of the State to discuss some of the hospital problems revealed by the survey that is being made under the direction of its Section for The Advancement of Medical Education and Science. The thoroughness of the important work of this Section is insured by the following personnel: Dr. W. E. Musgrave, Chairman, Dr. Wm. Ophuls, Dr. George Whipple, Dr. Stanley P. Black and Dr. Dudley Fulton.

That we are fortunate in California to have an independent organization to undertake the practical promotion of hospital service, unhampered by conflicting organizations, and encouraged by the cordial co-operation of all essential factors, is an opinion also shared by national leaders in the hospital betterment movement.

The aim of the League is to include only worthy institutions, whether large or small, in its Hospital membership, and thereby enlarge the service and advance the interests of those hospitals which are endeavoring to give the standard of service to which their particular communities are entitled.

It is not only the medical profession, which has too long endured the heavy handicap imposed by misfit methods of poor hospitals, that is welcoming the work of the League, but Chambers of Commerce and business organizations in several communities have enlisted the services of the League to develop hospital sentiment and make proposed new hospitals community service centers.

Another worthy enterprise of the League that is of interest not only to all the ethical members of the medical profession but to all the people of the State, is the strengthening of the Medical Practice Act. This work, it was declared, was making steady progress under the direction of Dr. Wm. Ophuls. A great number of helpful suggestions have been received by Dr. Ophuls from various doctors of California. After all the suggestions are received, the plan of the Chairman is to discuss them with those possessing particular information on the educational, administrative and enforcement features of the Medical Practice Act, so that the obscure portions of the present act may be clarified and the weak portions strengthened. Then the science and art of

medicine may be applied in California without handicaps that vitiate it and surrounded with safeguards without which it would be vicious.

It was pointed out that all these desirable things may be prepared and presented but to be effective they must be passed, and that the plenary power to formulate, build up or tear down the Medical Practice Act would be in the hands of the Legislature in 1921.

During 1920, however, the making of the Legislature is in the hands of the people. Eighty members of the Assembly and twenty members of the Senate will be elected this year. All were urged to take an active interest in selecting representatives who would not handicap health or prevent the progress of scientific medicine by thoughtless legislation.

"Ethical medical men who by their action or inaction place in power men who support measures that impede or imperil the progress of scientific medicine are untrue to themselves and enemies of their own household" was a paragraph of the Chairman's report that won instant applause.

"In order to assure ourselves and be able to assure the membership of the League that all the receipts and disbursements of the League are properly recorded and accounted for, we engaged an expert firm of accountants to make a complete audit of the books of the League." A full statement of the receipts of the League was given by County and the disbursements were set forth and analyzed under separate headings.

"That we have been able to do so much," said the Chairman, "on so little, covering such a wide field of activities, gives us ample assurance of the great work the League is destined to perform when adequate funds are furnished. With the achievements of the League in mind, the figures that our books disclose tell an eloquent story of devotion and efficiency. Any ethical doctor who can subscribe to the purposes of the League, and all representative doctors that believe in organized effort and concerted action for the common good, will co-operate with us."

The League during 1920 is called upon to conduct three State-wide campaigns in addition to its regular constructive work. An official League Bulletin will be issued to keep the membership in constant touch with these campaigns, and "to tell you what the League is trying to do for you and what the other fellow is trying to do to you."

The following new officers were unanimously elected:

Dr. Dudley A. Smith, President; Dr. Granville MacGowan, Vice-President; Drs. O. D. Hamlin, Saxton T. Pope and James W. Ward, Members of the Executive Committee; Drs. D. A. Beattie, Wm. Ellery Briggs, Paul M. Carrington, E. T. Dillon, W. W. Beckett, Saxton T. Pope and Ferdinand Stabel, Members of the Directorate.

A CITY DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF.

The recent development in the municipal affairs of the city of Banning should not pass without editorial comment. It appears that Dr. John C. King for years has had a sanitarium in the confines of this unfortified town, and the conduct of this institution has been a credit to the profession, a boon to the sick, and a worthy addition to the town. But the city fathers of Banning took it upon themselves to pass an ordinance prohibiting any one from conducting a hospital for tuberculosis or other communicable disease within the city limits. To comply with this ordinance Dr. King prepared to move the sanitarium to a site without the city limits to an ample plot of ground selected for its location. At considerable expense the new institution was to be erected for the care of tuberculosis patients. With egregious short-sightedness and stupidity an injunction was served upon him in an effort to prevent the establishment of the hospital.

It would seem in this case that unwarranted and morbid superstition is at the bottom of the matter. We must assume that the members of the city council think that a tuberculosis sanitarium is a menace to public health. This is a stupidity which education alone can eradicate. They do not take into consideration for a moment the humanitarian factors involved in the problem. Let us therefore state, with a hope that it may reach their ears, that an institution of the type run by Dr. John C. King of Banning is a credit to any community; that it is absolutely devoid of danger to the public at large; that, on the contrary, it protects the public health and is of educational value; that it offers to those afflicted with tuberculosis one of the surest and best means of restoration to health. Such an institution should receive the support of the town of Banning both morally and financially.

MORE CHEERFUL NONSENSE.

From time to time the medical man's mind falls into periods of dull apathy and unprofitable ennui. He feels the impotency of his learning and gropes vainly in the darkness of the unknown to find the secret of the insoluble mysteries of life. It is like a burst of sunshine on a cloudy day when the following bit of wisdom falls upon his consciousness:

VITA SCIENCE—LESSON IV.

The tattvas are the nerve currents with motor in stomach. Samana is the nerve current which controls the functions of digestion, absorbs the food and distributes it all over the body.

Apana is the life current which throws out of the body things no longer required and manifests itself in organs of excretion, such as kidneys, epidermis, etc.

Jiva is the life current manifesting the one self appearing to be separated into different entities. The motor is in the Organs of Generation.

Vyana is the life current which circulates all over the body and keeps it in shape. Touch is the motor.

Udana is the life current governing the organs